

Message Text

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22

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00

/048 W

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R 102000Z SEP 76

FM AMCONSUL ZANZIBAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1195

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

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CASABLANCA FOR RCAA

LAGOS FOR FAA REP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, TZ

SUBJECT: ZANZIBAR'S PLANS FOR OWN AIR SERVICES

1. AFTER NEARLY TWO YEARS OR MORE OF PLANNING, THERE ARE NOW SOLID INDICATIONS ZANZIBAR IS ABOUT TO ESTABLISH ITS OWN AIR SERVICES CORPORATION. YET-UNNAMED CORPORATION WOULD BE IN OPERATION BY EARLY NOVEMBER. ITS INITIAL ROLE WILL APPARENTLY BE TO PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION FOR ZANZIBAR GOVERNMENT LEADERS AND TO INCREASE TOURIST FLOW FROM MOMBASA. THERE MAY ALSO BE EFFORT TO SUPPLEMENT EAST AFRICAN AIRWAYS SERVICE TO DAR ES SALAAM, WITH WHICH ZANAIBAR INCREASINGLY DISSATISFIED. TIMING OF ESTABLISHMENT OF CORPORATION AND RUMORS OF BREAK-UP OF EAST AFRICAN AIRWAYS ARE COINCIDENTAL BUT, IF EAA FALLS APART, ZANZIBAR MAY WELL TRY TO TAKE CARE OF ITSELF AND, AT THIS STAGE, IS THINKING OF DOING SO INDEPENDENTLY OF MAINLAND TANZANIA. COLLAPSE OF

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EAA, THEREFORE, COULD RESULT IN FOUR RATHER THAN THREE

NEW AIRLINES.

2. ZANZIBAR GOVERNMENT SOURCE HAS INFORMED US THAT GOZ WILL HAVE FIFTY PER CENT INTEREST IN CORPORATION WITH BRITISH/SWISS GROUP HOLDING OTHER HALF. CONTRACT FOR MANAGEMENT AND PILOTS HAS BEEN GIVEN TO A KENYAN FIRM. INITIAL AIRCRAFT ARE TO BE TWO BEECHCRAFT QUEENAIRS (12 PASSENGERS) WITH TWO SMALLER BEECHCRAFT BARONS TO FOLLOW. THERE ARE PLANS TO ORDER LATER AT LEAST ONE KINGAIR (17 PASSENGERS). AIRCRAFT BEING SOLD THROUGH NAIROBI DISTRIBUTOR WHO MAY ALSO BE INVOLVED IN MANAGEMENT/PILOT CONTRACT. CONTRACTOR IS TO ESTABLISH FUEL AND SERVICE FACILITIES IN ZANZIBAR

3. CONSULATE WAS RECENTLY VISITED BY NAIROBI-BASED PILOT WHO HAS BEEN OFFERED ZANZIBAR JOB. IF HE ACCEPTED HE WAS TO GO TO U.S. SEPT. 4 FOR QUEENAIR TRAINING AND FLY ONE QUEENAIR BACK. HE SAID INITIAL CREW WOULD BE THREE PILOTS AND ONE MANAGER WITH MORE PEOPLE TO FOLLOW. HE SAID HE WAS OFFERED FIVE-YEAR CONTRACT WITH OPTION ON ADDITIONAL SEVEN YEARS. PROSPECTIVE PILOT NOT CLEAR ON PURPOSES OF CORPORATION BUT MENTIONED EXECUTIVE TRANSPORT, TOURIST SERVICE, AND POSSIBLE MILITARY CONNECTION AS HE UNDERSTANDS CORPORATION WILL EVENTUALLY HAVE HELICOPTERS.

4. COMMENT. ZANZIBAR HAS FOR SOME TIME BEEN FRUSTRATED WITH EAST AFRICAN AIRWAYS, BELIEVING RIGHTLY OR WRONGLY THAT EAA PERSONNEL IN KENYA MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR TOURISTS TO REACH ZANZIBAR. EAA STAFF IN DAR ES SALAAM IS ALSO SUSPECT. ZANZIBAR HAS SOUGHT TO IMPROVE SITUATION BY ADDING OWN FLIGHTS, ESPECIALLY TO MOMBASA TOURIST CENTER. WITH RESPECT TO GROWING GENERAL AIR TRANSPORT NEEDS, ZANZIBAR HAS BEEN CONTENT TO TRUST EAA AS A THREE-STATE CONSORTIUM BUT IF EAA DISSOLVES IT APPEARS ZANZIBAR WOULD NOT WANT TO RELY ON A SINGLE STATE, INCLUDING MAINLAND TANZANIA, FOR AIR SERVICES. HOPE AND REALITY MAY NOT COINCIDE, HOWEVER, AS ZANZIBAR'S PROPOSED SMALL FLEET OF BEECH AIRCRAFT WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO MATCH THE 55 DC3, DC9 AND F 27 FLIGHTS THAT STOP IN ZANZIBAR WEEKLY.

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